

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A structural foam article comprising:

(a) at least one thermoplastic;

(b) about 2% to about 15% by volume reinforcing particles, each of said reinforcing particles having one or more layers of 0.7nm-1.2 nm thick platelets, wherein more than about 50% of the reinforcing particles are less than about 20 layers thick, wherein more than about 99% of the reinforcing particles are less than about 30 layers thick, and wherein at least some of the reinforcing particles are not completely exfoliated and are from about 11 to about 30 layers thick; and

(c) at least one blowing agent present in a range from about 0.5% to about 10% by weight.

2. (Withdrawn) A method of producing structural foam articles comprising:

(a) preparing a melt of at least one thermoplastic having about 2% to about 15% by volume reinforcing particles having one or more layers of 0.7nm-1.2nm thick platelets, wherein more than about 50% of the reinforcing particles are less than about 20 layers thick, wherein more than about 99% of the reinforcing particles are less than about 30 layers thick, and said melt comprising at least one blowing agent present in a range from about 0.5% to about 10% by weight; and

(b) subjecting the polymer melt to a molding process, wherein the molding process is a process selected from the group consisting of injection molding and extrusion molding.